

Message Text

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42

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-11 AGR-20 COME-00 TRSE-00 CIEP-03

CIAE-00 INR-11 NSAE-00 RSC-01 L-03 SP-03 SWF-02 OMB-01

DRC-01 /071 W

----- 090347

R 160600Z AUG 74

FM AMCONSUL PORT MORESBY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 061

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

UNCLAS PORT MORESBY 0114

PASS USDA FOR PENCE

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR, ETRD, AS

SUBJECT: RICE

REF: CANBERRA 4986, PORT MORESBY 093

1. WE HAVE RECEIVED OFFICIAL GPNG INQUIRY ABOUT THE AVAILABILITY AND PRICE OF U.S. RICE FOR EXPORT TO PNG. WE ARE INFORMED THAT PNG RECEIVED ROUGHLY 43,000 METRIC TONS AUSTRALIAN RICE DURING 1973 AT DOLLARS 300 AUSTRALIAN PER METRIC TON C AND F FOR VITAMIN INCREASED WHITE RICE, 20 PERCENT BROKEN IN 25 KILO BAGS, AND DOLLARS 295 AUSTRALIAN PER METRIC TON FOR BROWN RICE IN 112 LB BAGS.

2. PNG EXPLORING CHEAPER SOURCES RICE IMPORTS, AND REQUESTS ANSWER TO LETTER SUMMARIZED BELOW PRIOR 22 AUGUST FOR USE MINISTERIAL DECISION.

3. QTE IT WOULD ASSIST US GREATLY TO KNOW THE POSSIBILITY OF OBTAINING SUITABLE SUPPLIES OF RICE FROM THE U.S. FROM DECEMBER 74 ONWARDS. DESIRE VITAMIN ENRICHED WHITE, LESS THAN 20 PERCENT BROKEN, ABOUT 10,000 TONS
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IN FOUR OR FIVE SHIPMENTS OVER ONE YEAR PERIOD. NEED

PRICE QUOTATION ON BASIS C.I.F. LAE FOR THIS AMOUNT.

3,\$ 153.

4. QTE GRADES U.S. NO. 2, NO. 3, AND NO. 4 OF BOTH
PEARL AND CALROSE MILLED RICE GROWN CALIF., WITH
VITAMIN ENRICHMENT APPEAR TO SUIT PNG S REQUIREMENTS.
3,\$ 153.

5. QTE WOULD ALSO LIKE INFORMATION RE MARKETING
PROCEDURES (I.E., IS THERE ANY CENTRAL MARKETING
AUTHORITY?) SEASONALITY OF SUPPLY, ANNUAL VARIATIONS
IN PRODUCTION AND, MOST IMPORTANTLY THE LIKELY
AVAILABILITY OF DIRECT SHIPPING FROM THE U.S. TO
P.N.G. SIGNED W.L. CONROY, SECRETARY. END QTE

6. I HAVE JUST RETURNED FROM TRIP TO HIGHLANDS WHERE
IT WAS CLEAR THAT GPNG IS MAKING A REAL EFFORT TO
INCREASE FOOD PRODUCTION AND EQUALLY CLEAR THAT
PINCH OF RISING FOOD PRICES IS BEING FELT. THERE
IS NO POSSIBILITY THAT PNG WILL BE SELF-SUFFICIENT
IN FOOD IN NEXT SEVERAL YEARS AND I BELIEVE WE SHOULD
TRY TO BE RESPONSIVE TO THEIR NEEDS.

ACTION REQUESTED: PLEASE FURNISH PRICE QUOTATIONS
FOR RICE DESCRIBED PARAS 3 AND 4 ABOVE, FOR BOTH
PACKAGED AND BULK RICE PRIOR AUGUST 22. SUBSEQUENTLY
WE NEED INFO TO ANSWER QUERY IN PARA 5. WOULD ALSO
APPRECIATE RECEIVING RICE SAMPLES. OLMSTED

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